

Hugo Documentation

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Hugo

Hugo is a lightweight static site generator made with Golang. Hugo enables developers to create fast websites that can work with or without servers, this versatility of Hugo provides developers the flexibility to deploy Hugo websites on different environments or integrate them with already existing websites.

What are static websites?

Static websites are websites that do not rely explicitly on servers. Contents of static websites are not dynamically generated by servers but are rather a collection of predefined pages. The advantage of static websites over dynamic websites is the speed they offer to users and the ease of setup and deployment they offer to developers.

Given that Web Developers often begin their journey with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript with which static websites are built, they can start building websites without knowing serverside technologies.

Purpose of Hugo

Hugo allows users to manage static websites efficiently by providing them with useful commands that can be used to create, edit, and delete content with ease. It can be called a CMS for static websites. With Hugo, static websites can be managed with single or multiple commands without tempering with the existing design and configurations of websites.

In addition, Hugo has a repository of beautiful themes that can be customised to suit your needs. The community is vibrant, hence new themes both free and premium ones are published regularly.

Related information

[Learn more](#)

Installation

This sections covers the installation steps to have Hugo installed on your machine. Hugo can be installed on your machine by following one of the below options:

- Download binaries.
- Build from source.
- Use package installers.

Download Binaries

Hugo binaries are cross-platform. Hence, you can download them and use them on your machines as you wish. Preferably, you should add the downloaded binaries to path to give you flexibility. Also, you can add the binaries on remote servers for cloud solutions.

[Click here](#) to download suitable binaries for your machines.

Build from Source

To build Hugo from source, you must have Golang installed. Download the latest version of Golang from <https://golang.org> if you do not have Golang installed on your machine. After you complete the basic Golang installation steps, follow the below steps to build Hugo from source on your machine:

MacOs users should run the following to build Hugo from source, first, you must install Golang on your Mac machine:

```
brew install go
```

After you install Golang, fetch the source code from GitHub and compile it.

```
git clone https://github.com/gohugoio/hugo
mkdir -p src/github.com/gohugoio
ln -sf $(pwd) src/github.com/gohugoio/hugo
go get
go build -o hugo main.go
```

The generated hugo file is a binary that can be added to path or moved about.

Use Package Installers

This method is recommended for less technical users and for technical users as well. Make sure you have the package installers on your machine before trying to install Hugo.

MacOS

For HomeBrew users, run the following commands to install Hugo:

```
brew install hugo
```

If you want only the absolute latest in development version, run the below:

```
brew install hugo --HEAD
```

You should see something similar to this if homebrew is working well:

```
==> Downloading https://homebrew.bintray.com/bottles/
hugo-0.21.sierra.bottle.tar.gz
#####
100.0%
==> Pouring hugo-0.21.sierra.bottle.tar.gz
/usr/local/Cellar/hugo/0.21: 32 files, 17.4MB
```

Now to confirm if homebrew has successfully installed Hugo, run the following command:

```
hugo version
```

Windows

For Chocolatey users on windows, run the following command to install Hugo:

```
choco install hugo -confirm
```

Run the below command if you want Sass/SCSS support:

```
choco install hugo-extended -confirm
```

However, if you are using Scoop package manager, you should use the following command:

```
scoop install hugo
```

For an extended version, run:

```
scoop install hugo-extended
```

Linux

For Linux users, HomeBrew can be used as expressed for MacOS users. If you are using a Linux distribution that supports Snap, run the command below to install Hugo:

```
snap install hugo
```

For an extended version that supports Sass/SCSS, run:

```
snap install hugo --channel=extended
```

For information on how to download or install Hugo on your machine, see the links below: